

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 677
By Phelan

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Head Coach David Russell and the great 1997-1998 Bradford High School girls' basketball team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A state championship.

WHEREAS, it is exciting when a Tennessee athletic team that is steeped in a long tradition of excellence, adds significantly to that proud tradition through hard work, extraordinary diligence and dedication, unrelenting determination, and adroit play; and

WHEREAS, the excellent 1997-1998 Bradford High School girls' basketball team, which impressed both their fans and hardwood aficionados by winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A State Tournament, is unquestionably one such outstanding squad; and

WHEREAS, their memorable path to glory commenced with their capture of the regular season District 16 A title and the District 16 A Tournament title; and

WHEREAS, Bradford next won the Region 8 A Tournament; and

WHEREAS, in the crucial substate game, this tremendously talented team overwhelmed Clarksburg 74-28; and

WHEREAS, at the Class A State Tournament, the very hot Bradford Lady Red Devils leashed the Hampton Bulldogs 78-56, in the quarterfinals; caged the Gordonsville Tigers 66-56

000000001

00000001

014909

01490926

in semifinal action; and defeated the Moore County Raiders, in a hotly contested championship final battle, 51-43; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Red Devils compiled an extremely rare 33-1 record, and an enviable winning percentage of .970; and

WHEREAS, venerable Head Coach David Russell admirably led Bradford to his 11th State Tournament as coach, winning his fifth state title and his third consecutive state championship. His capable staff included Assistant Coach Chris Hart, Assistant Coach Dennis Warren, and Assistant Coach Bobby J. McCartney; and

WHEREAS, the members of the highly successful squad were: seniors, Tonya Tuggles, Jodi Loynes, Karla Bennett, Casey White, Brittney Campbell, and Michelle Manning; juniors, Tashekia Brown, Paige Lannon, and Vera Kizer; sophomores, Emily Bryant, Kenya Thomas, Jessica Henson, and Laura Golden; and freshmen, Jenny Lannom, Danielle Page, Misti Hathcock, Jennifer Henson, Kristen Clark and Jessica Hickerson; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Page was the scorer and April Branson, Carla Cooper, Krystle Gordon, and Leslie Guy, were the managers; and

WHEREAS, the team received strong support from a very enthusiastic cheerleading squad, sponsored by Dana Ayers and Linda Cates. The members of the squad were: senior captain Jennifer Bolton, junior Melissa Griffin, sophomores, Andrienne Broadbent and Fallon Wheeler; and freshmen, Bethany Wingo, Jenny Hayes, Brandi Price, and Tiffany Whitney; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to reflect fondly on this team, which has been a credit to their school and to their community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Head Coach David Russell and the 1997-1998 Bradford High School girls' basketball team and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate duly inscribed copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.